Why are license plates required?

License plates are evidence that registration fees have been paid and are a means of readily identifying a vehicle and tracing ownership.

How many types of Wisconsin license plates are there?

There are 75 plate designs in 32 color combinations with 158 stickers and decals. The plate issued depends on the design and use of the vehicle or the owner's special interest. Examples of plate types are:

Automobile Disabled
Truck Tractor
Collector Semi-trailer

Most plate types are issued in sets of two for front and rear vehicle display.

The length of the registration period depends on the type of license plate. There are 8 valid registration periods: annual, quarterly, monthly, 2 year, 5 year, 6 year, 12 year and non-expiring. More detail on license plate types and registration periods is available in the *Wisconsin License Plate and Motor Carrier Credentials Guide*, published annually. For information on truck and bus registration, see "Heavy Vehicle Registration & Titling."

Auto and light truck plates issued from 1987 through June 2000 will be replaced over the seven year period of July 2000 - June, 2007, with oldest plates first. Special plate types may be replaced during this period, but a start date has not yet been set. Plates for motorcycles and heavy vehicles are not scheduled for replacement. Individuals may replace their plates (same plate design) for a fee of \$2 per plate for regular plates and \$5/6 per plate for some special plates. Plate holders are responsible for replacing plates that are no longer readable.

DMV issues stickers upon renewal to show the date of vehicle registration expiration when new plates are not issued.

Bureau of Vehicle Services Vehicle Records Section Research and Information Unit (608) 266-1466

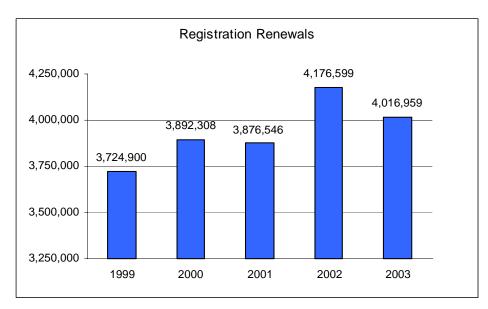
Email: bur-veh-services.dmv@dot.state.wi.us

How long are plates valid?

When are license plates issued?

When are renewal stickers issued?

For more information contact:



Source: BVS Renew al Statistics by Month